

THE COMMONWEALTH
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READ IT FIRST IN THIS PAPER

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 1916.

NOT GUILTY.

According to the Raleigh cor-
respondent of the Greensboro
Daily News, there's great grief
in the capital city over the defeat
of Judge F. D. Winston in the
Third Judicial District.

One cause for grief, he says, is
a "kick-back at Governor Craig."

This paper doesn't remember
the reading of any such grief
over what the Raleigh correspon-
dent calls "kick-back at the Gov-
ernor" when Governor Kitchin's
appointee, Judge James S. Man-
ning was defeated. It depends
altogether who's kicked and by
whom, to get any prominence in
the capital city newspaperdom,
or bring forth such great grief.

This paper doesn't believe that
in the defeat of Winston there
was meant any "kick-back" at
Governor Craig. The very word
"kick-back" acknowledges that
the people of the Third District
were first kicked. Who started
this kicking business anyhow?

The voters of this district, and cer-
tainly not in this county, did not
wage the campaign against Win-
ston on that ground, although
they knew, that in the selection
of a Judge to fill the vacancy
caused by the death of Judge
Peebles, their wishes and recom-
mendations in the matter were
not considered. The Democrats
are too intelligent and patriotic
to cast their votes against one
person to "kick-back" at an-
other. That is an accusation of
narrowness to which they plead
in thunder tones—NOT GUILTY.
It would have made no differ-
ence to them who appointed the
man to fill the vacancy, if such
appointee had been their choice
for the position. Under the law,
whoever the Governor had ap-
pointed, could only have held un-
til the next general election which
is in next November.

There necessarily would have
been a primary. The Common-
wealth ventures the assertion
if Kerr had been appointed, no
one would have opposed him. So
far as this county is concerned,
the recent campaign was waged
upon great, broad Democratic
principles. There was no mud
slinging or underhand cuts. Dem-
ocrats of this District believe in
loyalty to party and its prin-
ciples, and no doubt believed that
in a political battle the soldier
who, according to his opportu-
nities, had rendered his company
more loyal services, was entitled
to first promotion. Who has the
right to criticize and kick when
the people have spoken? The
people of this District wanted
John Kerr for Judge. They knew
him. He had been their faithful
and efficient prosecuting officer
for more than ten years. They
did not vote for a stranger. They
also knew Judge Winston. Both
these gentlemen had been tried
as District officers. They are sat-
isfied that either of these would
have HELD the Judiciary up to the
standard. It was not a ques-
tion of personal character or abili-
ty that influenced their votes.
They chose the man they wanted.

This primary seems to the Com-
monwealth to carry with it a
lesson which should be studied
well by all young men, and cause
them to ever keep their political
record straight. It also shows
that the General Assembly made
no mistake in enacting primary
laws through which the people
themselves speak. The Primary
makes it impossible for a few poli-
ticians to name candidates, as has
been charged by some in the past.

The Commonwealth is not sur-
prised at all at Saturday's vote.
It was for Kerr, but has no words
of condemnation for Judge Win-
ston or any of his friends who
voted for him. That was their
privilege. His friends stood by
him like men to the last, for which
we admire them. They were too
few to land him. This paper sym-
pathizes with the Judge in his
defeat, though it rejoices in the
victory of Kerr.

In the selection of John Kerr,

the District or State will never
have cause to regret. He is a
clean, Christian gentleman, a
man of high character in whom
all have confidence, an able and
learned lawyer and will adorn
the Bench.

The cotton crop throughout
this section will not turn out as
good as was thought a few weeks
ago. A great many think the
crop will be very short. Reports
are coming in that the bolls are
rotting before opening. As many
as 20 rotten bolls have been seen
on one stalk. If there is much of
this rot the crop is bound to be
short. Twenty cents per pound
would not be high according to
present conditions. When a
pound of cotton won't buy a
pound of meat, cotton is too low.

The Warrenton (Kerr) got on
the main line and completed the
trip through the District with fly-
ing colors without having to stop
at Norlina and get the assistance
of a Headlight. Wonder if it was
Hardy's know?

Speaking about politics, it must
have been an awful meow Mrs.
Catt gave Wilson at Atlantic City.
If Mrs. Catt heads the suffrage
party, we are sorry for the kit-
tens at home.

This paper has little patience
with these two by fours saying
what Wilson ought to have done,
and what they would have done
if they had been him. Thank the
Lord they won't him!

Mr. Ernest Leggett, one of this
section's most progressive farm-
ers, attended the tobacco sales on
the Rocky Mount market yester-
day. He reports the weed still
bringing high prices.

Friday night at the Palace, a
big picture in 5 parts, featuring
Winifred Greenwood (your favo-
rite) and Franklin Ritchie, en-
titled "Reclamation."

THE KNOCKER'S PRAYER



"LORD, PLEASE DON'T LET THIS TOWN GROW. I'VE
BEEN HERE FOR THIRTY YEARS, AND DURING THAT TIME
I'VE FOUGHT EVERY PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT; I'VE KNOCK-
ED EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY; NO FIRM OR INDIVID-
UAL HAS ESTABLISHED A BUSINESS HERE WITHOUT MY
DOING ALL I COULD TO PUT THEM OUT OF BUSINESS. I'VE
LIED ABOUT THEM, AND I WOULD HAVE STOLEN FROM
THEM IF I HAD THE COURAGE. I'VE DONE ALL I COULD TO
KEEP THE TOWN FROM GROWING AND NEVER SPOKEN A
GOOD WORD FOR IT. I'VE KNOCKED HARD AND OFTEN.
I'VE PUT ASHES ON THE CHILDREN'S SLIDE AND HAVE
MADE THE MARSHAL STOP THE BOYS FROM PLAYING BALL
IN MY VACANT LOT. WHENEVER I SAW ANYONE PROSPER-
ING OR ENJOYING THEMSELVES, I'VE STARTED A REFORM
TO KILL THE BUSINESS OR SPOIL THE FUN; I DON'T WANT
THE YOUNG FOLKS TO STAY IN THIS TOWN, AND I WILL DO
ALL I CAN BY LAW, RULE AND ORDINANCE TO DRIVE THEM
AWAY. IT PAINS ME, O LORD, TO SEE THAT IN SPITE OF
MY KNOCKING IT IS BEGINNING TO GROW. SOME DAY I
FEAR I WILL BE CALLED UPON TO PUT DOWN SIDEWALKS
IN FRONT OF MY PROPERTY, AND WHO KNOWS BUT WHAT
I MAY HAVE TO KEEP UP THE STREETS THAT RUN BY MY
PREMISES? THIS, LORD, WOULD BE MORE THAN I COULD
BEAR. IT WOULD COST ME MONEY, THOUGH ALL I HAVE
MADE WAS RIGHT HERE IN THIS TOWN. THEN, TOO, MORE
PEOPLE COME IF THE TOWN BEGINS TO GROW, WHICH
WOULD CAUSE ME TO LOSE SOME OF MY PULL. I ASK THEE,
THEREFORE, TO KEEP THIS TOWN AT A STANDSTILL, THAT
I MAY CONTINUE TO VE THE CHIEF. AMEN."



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"I want to tell you what wonderful benefit I have re-
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Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mills, Ky.

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liver and stomach troubles. I firmly believe Black-Draught
saved my little girl's life. When she had the measles,
they went in on her, but one good dose of Thedford's
Black-Draught made them break out, and she has had no
more trouble. I shall never be without

THEDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

in my home." For constipation, indigestion, headache, dizzi-
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ailments, Thedford's Black-Draught has proved itself a safe,
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If you suffer from any of these complaints, try Black-
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young and old. For sale everywhere. Price 25 cents.

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Fall term begins September 20,
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J. M. Rhodes, Littleton, N. C.

NOTICE.

Having qualified as administrator of
the estate of the late H. L. Shields, this
is to notify all persons having claims
against the estate to present same to
me before January 31, 1917, or this no-
tice will be pleaded in bar of their re-
covery.

All persons indebted to the estate
will make immediate payment.
This Jan. 31st, 1916.

C. T. LAWRENCE, Admr.

First Class Goods

Auto Goggles at - - - - - 75c.
White Metal Spectacles at - - \$1.00
15 year guaranteed gold filled
Spectacles at - - - - - \$2.50
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The lenses in all my glasses are the
best that can be obtained and are guar-
anteed to give you perfect satisfaction.
First class Watch and Optical repair-
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mobile. Exhaust and wheel base in
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with it—same as when
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White Lead.

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buy and if not the best paint
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our business is that we always
take pleasure in accommodating
our customers in every way pos-
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good people of Scotland Neck is
evidenced by their appreciation
of our efforts to the extent that
they have caused our business to
grow until it is now the LARG-
EST of its kind in the County.

No store in this section has a
larger or more complete assort-
ment of FANCY GROCERIES.

Your orders are ALWAYS ap-
preciated.

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factory range. Buy one of our perfect ranges and you will
have a range which possesses not only beauty and strength,
but embodies, as well, the constructive skill that makes for
the greatest utility at least fuel expense.

We have just received a car of "Washington" Stoves
and Ranges, the grates in the firebox of which are guar-
anteed by the manufacturers to last the life of the stove.

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plain and simple design. Buy one of our ranges and get
the best. We invite you to visit our store any day.

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